Wheat found stolen from bags in stock

By Our Correspondent

MULTAN, Dec 31: The Khidmat Committee of Kehror Pucca town raided a PASSCO godown and found the entire wheat stock below the weight mentioned on papers.

KC chairman Rana Buland Sher Khan told newsmen on Thursday that three to four kg wheat had been removed from each bag.

TRADERS' PROTEST: Local timber market traders have strongly opposed the re-auctioning of already-allotted shops by the Multan Development Authority and appealed to Punjab chief minister to intervene into the matter.

Presiding over an emergency meeting of the Markazi Anjuman Tajiran, Timber Market, Shaikh Muhammad Akram said on Thursday that the market was still deprived of goods stand, parking site, lavatories, open spaces and cold storage because the MDA did not complete development works as per agreement although the allottess have paid development charges.

He further said that the MDA was also auctioning the space earmarked for water-disposal system besides re-auctioning the already-allotted shops which caused unrest among traders.

FARM LOANS: The Punjab Provincial Cooperative Bank has decided to advance farm loans of Rs 2,660 million by July 31, 1999.

The bank has already lent Rs 538.3 million for the Rabi crop, 1998-99, through cooperative societies.

Official sources said that bank had recovered 99.13 per cent of its Rabi loans for 1997-98 while Rs 540.8 million had so far been recovered out of the Kharif-98 loan which was 30 per cent of the total loan.

Sources said that cotton purchase was very slow due to cautious buying by the APTMA. As a result, farmers were unable to repay loans.